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BILL: Senate Bill 145  
TITLE: Education – Statewide Kindergarten Assessment - Completion  
DATE: January 25, 2017  
POSITION: SUPPORT  
COMMITTEE: Education, Health and Environmental Affairs  
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Senate Bill 145 alters the date by which a statewide kindergarten assessment that has the purpose of measuring school readiness must be completed from October 1 to October 10.

PSSAM **supports** Senate Bill 145.

Local superintendents and school staff directly involved in giving the statewide Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) will welcome the extended period provided in Senate Bill 145. The change from October 1 to October 10 is significant in light of Governor Hogan’s Executive Order that Maryland public schools must open after Labor Day. Historically, for many years, twenty-three local school systems opened at least one week or more prior to Labor Day. Given the required post-Labor Day start time, this extension provides for a reasonable timeline for school-based professionals to conduct this very important assessment.

In addition, PSSAM is optimistic that the Maryland State Department of Education will be able to deliver the KRA results in a timely fashion. Since the KRA is used to measure school readiness, it is important that the results are received by schools within an appropriate timeline to inform instructional decisions.

Again, PSSAM fully **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 145 and requests a **favorable** committee report.